

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 NSC-07 NSCE-00 PM-03 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1023

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION BERLIN

QSMISSION GENEVA 3348

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03947

GENEVA FOR USCSCE DEL

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652; GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW, UR, UK, US, FR

SUBJECT: FRG-SOVIET TALKS ON CSCE: BAHR'S DEBRIEFING
OF THREE AMBASSADORS

REF: MOSCOW 3225 (NOTAL)

1. BAHR TOLD US, UK AND FRENCH AMBASSADORS MARCH 12
OF HIS DISCUSSIONS OF CSCE WITH SOVIET LEADERS DURING
HIS RECENT 10-DAY VISIT TO MOSCOW. BAHR SAID HE WAS
IMPRESSED BY HOW MUCH ATTENTION BREZHNEV, GROMYKO AND
OTHERS FOCUSED ON THE CONFERENCE. HE HAD THE IMPRESSION
THAT THEY CONSIDERED ITS SUCCESS OF IMPORTANCE.

2. AS EMBASSY MOSCOW HAS REPORTED, BREZHNEV COMPLAINED
ABOUT THE SLOW PROGRESS BEING MADE IN GENEVA. OTHER
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SOVIET OFFICIALS RAISED MORE SPECIFIC COMPLAINTS. THE

FRG CAME IN FOR HEAVY CRITICISM FOR ITS POSITIONS ON BASKET ONE, ESPECIALLY THE NON-VIOLABILITY OF BORDERS, ON CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES, WHICH THE SOVIETS CHARGED WERE DESIGNED TO CREATE SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR THE USSR, AND ON BASKET THREE, ALONG STANDARD SOVIET LINES. THE SOVIETS ALSO PRESSED HARD FOR A SUMMIT MEETING TO CONCLUDE THE CSCE.

3. BAHR DID NOT INDICATE HOW HE REPLIED TO THESE CHANGES BUT ONE OF THE FRG DELEGATION WITH BAHR TOLD US THAT BAHR HAD INSISTED THAT THE FRG WAS NOT HOLDING THINGS UP IN GENEVA.

4. BAHR TOLD US THAT HE HAD PUT FORWARD, AT CHANCELLOR BRANDT'S INITIATIVE, THE IDEA OF A FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING AT THE END OF THE SECOND STAGE OF THE CSCE. GROMYKO HAD REACTED COOLLY TO THIS IDEA AND COMMENTED THAT IT WAS MUCH TOO EARLY TO THINK ABOUT IT SINCE THE WORKING GROUPS IN GENEVA WERE NOT CLOSE TO FINISHING THEIR WORK. (COMMENT. BAHR HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT GROMYKO WAS HESITANT ABOUT A SECOND-STAGE FONMINS' MEETING BECAUSE THE SURROUNDING PUBLICITY MIGHT DETRACT FROM THE SUBSEQUENT SOVIET-ENVISAGED SUMMIT MEETING AND HENCE GROMYKO MIGHT APPEAR TO BE STEALING SOME OF BREZHNEV'S SHOW. H END COMMENT.)
HILLENBRAND

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